

REMARKS

Claims 24-27, 32, 34, 35 and 37-45 are pending in this application. Claims 24 through 27, 32, 34, 35 and 37 through 44 are amended in several particulars for purposes of clarity in accordance with current Office policy, to assist the examiner and to expedite compact prosecution of this application. Claims 45 is newly added. Claims 1 through 23, 28 through 31 and 33 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter.

The granting of an interview by Examiner Tri M. Mai, and the courtesy of Examiner Mai are sincerely appreciated, especially in reviewing the proposed affidavit of commercial success and the invention model presented by Inventor Mr. Albritton.

As a result of the discussions during the interview, and the suggestions of Examiner Mai, this Amendment is presented.

The claims 1-23, 28-31 and 33 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter and in order to assist the examiner and to expedite compact prosecution of this application. The claims 24-27, 32, 34, 35, and 37-44 are amended to particularly claim a backpack configuration and to more clearly state the claims.

In regard to the obviousness rejections in the last Office action (Paper No. 12) mailed 25 July 2003, the arguments presented in Applicant's previous Amendment after final are

incorporated herein.

Notwithstanding the citation of the prior art, which does not show Applicant's invention as argued in the above-referenced Amendment after final, Applicant submits that the Affidavit of Commercial Success overwhelmingly confirms that a need exists for Applicant's invention.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests an allowance of the amended claims.

A fee of \$55.00 (small entity) is incurred by filing of a petition for a one-month extension of time. Applicant's check drawn to the order of Commissioner accompanies this Amendment. Should there be a deficiency in payment, or should other fees be incurred, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 02-4943 of Applicant's undersigned attorney in the amount of such fees.

Respectfully submitted,



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